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7-17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Rule 53(b) Continuation Application  
of Serial No. 08/895,493

Makoto SAITO

09-544,497

Serial Number: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2766 (prior)

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: H. Sayadian (prior)

For: **METHOD FOR CONTROLLING DATA BASE COPYRIGHTS**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

April 7, 2000

Sir:

07/16/2000 PHARROD 00000001 012340 09544497

01 EC:103 36. Please amend the above-captioned Continuation patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please CANCEL Claims 1-22 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please ADD New Claims 23-50 as follows:

- Sub da*
23. A digital data management method, comprising the steps of:  
    encrypting digital data to produce encrypted digital data supplied to a user;  
    using a utilization permit key to manage said digital data, said utilization permit key  
    being a display permit key, an edit permit key, a storage permit key, a copy permit key, and/or  
    a transfer permit key;
- B*
- B*